Exhibit 4

U.S. Patent No. 7,370,011 Charles Schwab Corporation



Claim Chart for Representative Claim 7

OVERVIEW



U.S. Patent No. 7,370,011



(12) United States Patent Bennett et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 7,370,011 B2 (45) Date of Patent: May 6, 2008

- (54) FINANCIAL INFORMATION PORTAL
- (75) Inventors: Michael Bennett, San Francisco, CA (US); John Bergquist, San Francisco, CA (US); Susan Nesbitt, Berkeley, CA (US)
- (73) Assignee: Yahoo! Inc., Sunnyvale, CA (US)
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 991 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: 09/896,438
- (22) Filed: Jun. 28, 2001
- (65) Prior Publication Data

US 2002/0049655 A1 Apr. 25, 2002

Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 60/214,662, filed on Jun. 28, 2000.
- (51) Int. Cl.
- See application file for complete search history.

 References Cited

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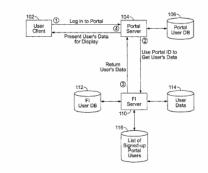
Primary Examiner—James A. Kramer Assistant Examiner—Jason Borlinghaus

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Morrison & Foerster LLP

(57) ABSTRACT

In a system for a financial institution or other information maintainer, has a list of its account holders that also have accounts with a portal and have agreed to link their portal account and user account with the financial institution or other information maintainer. When a user logs onto the user's portal account, the portal server can request information from the user account over a trusted link to the financial institution or other information maintainer. The portal can request data for a particular user over the trusted link or can request bulk data for all users, using portal authentication data, as opposed to user authentication data. In the preferred embodiment, the actions allowed on a user account by the portal authentication data are more restrictive than the actions allowed by the user authentication data. As an example, a brokerage house might allow the portal to read recent transaction data for the user but not to make trades on the user's account, while the brokerage house would allow the user to perform many more actions if the user logged on directly to the brokerage house's system using the user's

16 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



Title: FINANCIAL INFORMATION PORTAL

Priority Date: June 28, 2000

Filing Date: June 28, 2001

Issue Date: May 6, 2008

Expiration Date: March 15, 2024

(57) ABSTRACT

In a system for a financial institution or other information maintainer, has a list of its account holders that also have accounts with a portal and have agreed to link their portal account and user account with the financial institution or other information maintainer. When a user logs onto the user's portal account, the portal server can request information from the user account over a trusted link to the financial institution or other information maintainer. The portal can request data for a particular user over the trusted link or can request bulk data for all users, using portal authentication data, as opposed to user authentication data. In the preferred embodiment, the actions allowed on a user account by the portal authentication data are more restrictive than the actions allowed by the user authentication data. As an example, a brokerage house might allow the portal to read recent transaction data for the user but not to make trades on the user's account, while the brokerage house would allow the user to perform many more actions if the user logged on directly to the brokerage house's system using the user's authentication data.

Representative Claim 7

A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution in a computer, the medium when executed by a computer performing the method comprising:

accepting a connection at an institution server, the connection initiated by a user following a link from a portal, the link including a user identification;

responsive to the connection, enabling the user to authenticate with the institution server using user-institution authentication data;

responding to the authentication by associating the user identification with the portal; and

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

CLAIM CHART



References Cited

Upon information and belief, Charles Schwab Corporation ("Charles Schwab") has and continues to make, use, sell, offer for sale, and/or import the Charles Schwab interface allowing users to associate an account with a third-party service (such as Plaid) (hereinafter, the "Schwab interface"), which is software that is capable of practicing the steps described in the claims of U.S. Patent No. 7,370,011 (the "'011 Patent").

The following chart presents R2 Solutions' analysis of the Schwab interface based on publicly available information.

The citations in the chart refer to the following publicly available documents, which are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein:

- [1] What is Plaid?, https://plaid.com/what-is-plaid/.
- [2] Link Overview, https://plaid.com/docs/link/#introduction-to-link.
- [3] Plaid Link Demo, https://plaid.com/demo/?countryCode=US&language=en&product=transactions.
- [4] How We Handle Data, https://plaid.com/how-we-handle-data/.
- [5] How It Works, https://plaid.com/docs/quickstart/#how-it-works.

References Cited References Cited

- [6] Demystifying Screenless Exchange, https://fin.plaid.com/articles/demystifying-screenless-exchange/.
- [7] Lisa Schidler, *Tired of Having Their Screens Scraped, Schwab and Fidelity Launch API Initiatives to Curtail the Practice—Rewarding Some, but Not All Scrapers with Cleaner Data, RIABIZ (May 28, 2020, 11:45 PM), https://riabiz.com/a/2020/5/29/tired-of-having-their-screens-scraped-schwab-and-fidelity-launch-api-initiatives-to-curtail-the-practice-rewarding-some-but-not-all-scrapers-with-cleaner-data.*
- [8] Product Endpoints: Identity, https://plaid.com/docs/api/products/#identity.

Claim Feature

A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution in a computer, the medium when executed by a computer performing the method comprising:

Evidence from Charles Schwab

Charles Schwab allows customers to connect their bank accounts with Plaid. On information and belief, this involves Charles Schwab taking steps on its servers to associate the user's bank account with the user's Plaid account. Plaid is a software portal that allows users to connect applications to their bank accounts. See, e.g.:

What is Plaid?

Plaid makes it easy to securely connect your bank to the apps you want to use

Connecting your bank to your apps

We power thousands of the apps that people rely on to manage their financial lives.

- Venmo (peer-to-peer payments)
- Betterment (automated investing)
- Chime (online banking)
- Dave (earned wage access)
- And thousands more...

How it works

We connect to 11,000 financial institutions across the United States, Canada, and Europe. With Plaid, connecting your bank account is easy:

Step 1

When you sign up with a Plaid-powered app, you'll be able to select your financial institution from a list. Then, enter your login and password.

Step 2

In a matter of seconds, we encrypt the data you've chosen to share (for instance, your account balance) and securely share it with the app you want to use. We never share your login and password with the app.

Step 3

We work behind the scenes to build a secure, ongoing connection between the app and your bank.

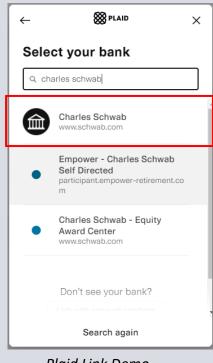
What is Plaid?

Claim Feature

A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution in a computer, the medium when executed by a computer performing the method comprising:

Evidence from Charles Schwab

Charles Schwab allows customers to connect their bank accounts with Plaid. On information and belief, this involves Charles Schwab taking steps on its servers to associate the user's bank account with the user's Plaid account. Plaid is a software portal that allows users to connect applications to their bank accounts. See, e.g.:



Plaid Link Demo

Plaid Link is the client-side component that your users will interact with in order to link their accounts to Plaid and allow you to access their accounts via the Plaid API.

Plaid Link will handle credential validation, multi-factor authentication, and error handling for each institution that we support. Link works across all modern browsers and platforms, including web, iOS, Android, and mobile webviews. For a full list of supported platforms, see Link client libraries.

Link Overview

A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution in a computer, the medium when executed by a computer performing the method comprising:

Evidence from Charles Schwab

On information and belief, Charles Schwab uses an API that allows Plaid to access customer data using a token-based authentication process. See, e.g.:

<u>Tired of having their screens scraped</u>, <u>Schwab</u> and <u>Fidelity launch API initiatives to curtail the practice -- rewarding some</u>, but not all scrapers with cleaner data

"APIs are a best practice in the industry and take a token-based approach, which enables clients to authorize third parties to download requested account information on their behalf in an encrypted form, without storing their usernames and passwords."

Shidler

Evidence from Charles Schwab

accepting a connection at an institution server, the connection initiated by a user following a link from a portal, the link including a user identification;

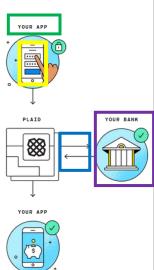
A user may access Plaid (an example of a "portal") through a financial application. The user may then initiate a connection with Charles Schwab (i.e., an "institution") by following a link displayed on the Plaid interface. See, e.g.:

How we handle your data With Plaid, connecting your financial accounts to an app is simple. Here's what happens on our end.

an app like Venmo, simply provide the username and password associated with those financial accounts.

1 To link your financial accounts to

- Once we've verified your ownership of your accounts, we retrieve your account information from your financial institution.
- 3 We then securely process and share your information with the app you're using and establish a secure connection that you control.



How We Handle Data

Claim Feature

including a user identification;

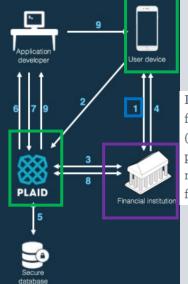
accepting a connection at an institution server, the connection initiated by a user following a link from a portal, the link

Evidence from Charles Schwab

A user may access Plaid (an example of a "portal") through a financial application. The user may then initiate a connection with Charles Schwab (i.e., an "institution") by following a link displayed on the Plaid interface. See, e.g.:

Screenless exchange

- Credentials sent from user device to bank via Plaid. Bank tokenizes, stores, and returns a credentials token without verifying whether credentials are valid.
- User device sends credentials token to Plaid.
- Plaid sends credentials token to bank. If verification is successful, bank stores an access token that is also sent to Plaid.
- 4. User is prompted to accept Terms and informed of data the application intends to access.
- 5. Plaid stores institution access key and credential token in a secure database.
- 6. Application developer receives API access key.
- 7. Developer uses API access key to request data from Plaid, including any subsequent requests.
- 8. Plaid uses the institution access token associated with the API access key to request data from bank.
- 9. Plaid returns data to application developer, which then displays data on user's device.



In digital financial services, Plaid presents one leading solution. In this flow, an app connects with a bank via a trusted third-party intermediary (in this case, Plaid). The user inputs his or her credentials, which are passed directly to the bank via the trusted intermediary. The application never sees or stores user credentials, significantly reducing the potential for credential compromise and fraud.

Demystifying Screenless Exchange



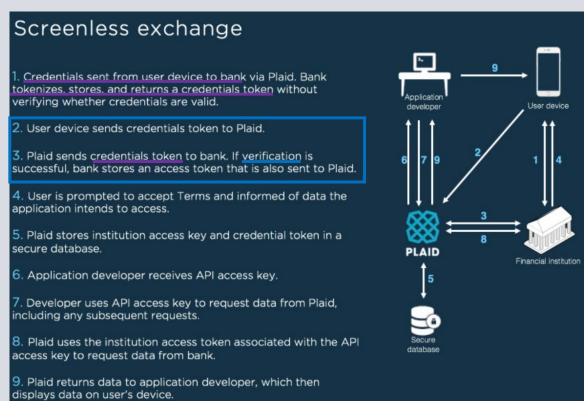
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Claim Feature Evidence from Charles Schwab accepting a connection at an institution For example, as the Plaid demo shows, a user can input the username and password for their Charles Schwab account. server, the connection initiated by a user This information is then sent to Charles Schwab when the user selects the submit button. In other words, the user following a link from a portal, the link including a user identification; initiates a connection at the institution server by following a link from the portal, and the link includes user **₩** PLAID identification. See, e.g.: X X Charles Schwab www.schwab.com **Enter your credentials** Login ID Success! user_good Your account has been successfully Password linked to Plaid Demo Submit Reset password Continue Plaid Link Demo

Evidence from Charles Schwab

responsive to the connection, enabling the user to authenticate with the institution server using user-institution authentication data;

After Plaid connects to the Charles Schwab server, the user may be authenticated with the Charles Schwab server using user-institution authentication data (e.g., the username/password input into the Plaid interface). As the flow diagram below shows, the user's bank credentials are sent to the bank servers and then the user's account is verified. See, e.g.:

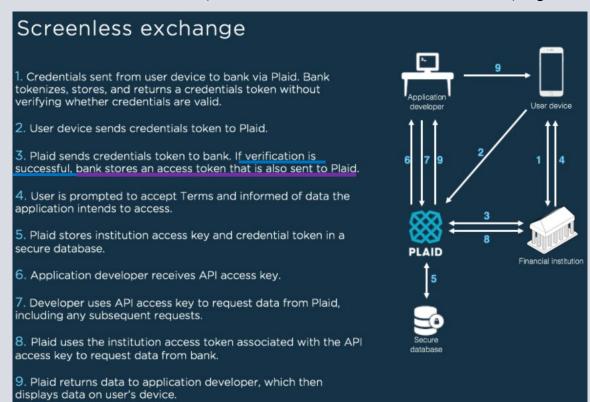


Demystifying Screenless Exchange

Claim Feature responding to the authentication by associating the user identification with the portal; and

Evidence from Charles Schwab

In response to authentication of the user's bank credentials, the Charles Schwab servers associate the user identification with the portal. For example, the bank server saves an access token that is shared with the portal. The access token is linked with the user's account, which includes a user identification. See, e.q.:



Demystifying Screenless Exchange

Evidence from Charles Schwab

responding to the authentication by associating the user identification with the portal; and

The association between the user identification and the access token (and thereby the portal) is confirmed based on the response that the portal receives when it uses the access token to retrieve user identity information. See, e.g.:

/identity/get

Retrieve identity data

The /identity/get endpoint allows you to retrieve various account holder information on file with the financial institution, including names, emails, phone numbers, and addresses. Only name data is guaranteed to be returned; other fields will be empty arrays if not provided by the institution.

```
Java v

// Pull Identity data for an Item
Response<IdentityGetResponse> response = client().se
new IdentityGetRequest("ACCESS_TOKEN")

// Develope item item
Response
List<IdentityGetResponse
AccountWithOwners> accounts
for (IdentityGetResponse.AccountWithOwners account:
List<IdentityGetResponse.Identity> identities = accounts

// Develope item
// Pull IdentityGetResponse
AccountWithOwners

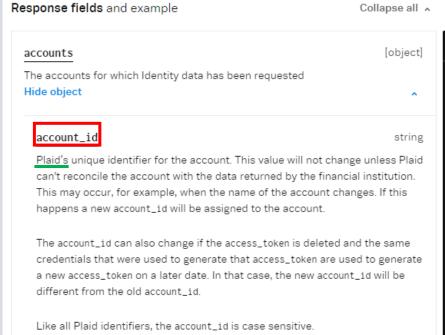
// List<IdentityGetResponse.Identity> identities = accounts
// Develope item
/
```

Product Endpoints: Identity



Evidence from Charles Schwab

responding to the authentication by associating the user identification with the portal; and



Product Endpoints: Identity

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

Evidence from Charles Schwab

Charles Schwab servers are configured to service a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data. For example, on information and belief, Charles Schwab's API is configured to enable tokenized data exchange with Plaid. A user is authenticated with a token (i.e., portal authentication data) rather than the user's institution username/password (i.e., user-institution authentication data) when the portal requests user data from Charles Schwab. See, e.g.:

<u>Fidelity launch API initiatives to curtail the practice --</u> rewarding some, but not all scrapers with cleaner data

"APIs are a best practice in the industry and take a <u>token-based</u> approach, which enables clients to authorize third parties to download <u>requested</u> account information on their behalf in an encrypted form, without storing their <u>usernames</u> and <u>passwords."</u>

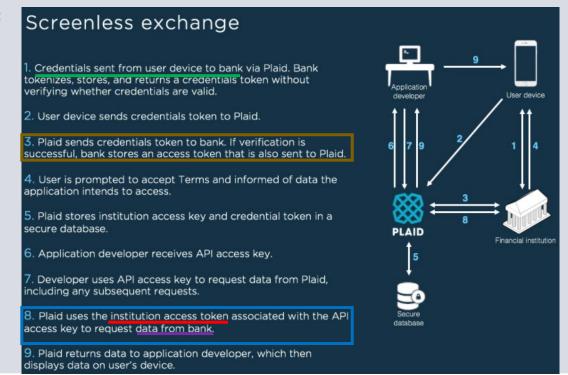
Shidler

Evidence from Charles Schwab

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

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bank. See, e.g.:



Demystifying Screenless Exchange

Claim Feature

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

Evidence from Charles Schwab

The Plaid API illustrates how requests are made by the portal and how the financial institution (e.g., Charles Schwab) returns data of the user in response to authentication using portal authentication data that is different from the user-institution data. As mentioned in previous slides, the user's institution credentials (i.e., user-institution authentication data) are used by plaid to obtain an access token (i.e., portal authentication data). See, e.g.:

Once you have a link_token, you can use it to initialize <u>Link</u>. Link is a drop-in client-side module available for web, iOS, and Android that handles the authentication process. The Quickstart uses Link on the web, which is a pure JavaScript integration that you trigger via your own client-side code. This is what your users use to log into their financial institution accounts.

After a user submits <u>their credentials</u> within Link, Link provides you with a public_token via the onSuccess callback. The code below shows how the Quickstart passes the public_token from client-side code to the server. Both React and vanilla JavaScript examples are shown.

Next, on the server side, the Quickstart calls /item/public_token/exchange to obtain an access_token, as illustrated in the code excerpt below. The access_token uniquely identifies an Item and is a required argument for most Plaid API endpoints. In your own code, you'll need to securely store your access_token in order to make API requests for that Item.

How It Works



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Claim Feature

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

Evidence from Charles Schwab

Plaid may then use the access token to make an API call to Charles Schwab's servers and Charles Schwab will return data of the user. In other words, after the portal authenticates itself by submitting the access token (i.e., portal authentication data) to Charles Schwab, Charles Schwab provides account data of the user. See, e.g.:

Making API requests

Now that we've gone over the Link flow and token exchange process, we can explore what happens when you press a button in the Quickstart to make an API call. As an example, we'll look at the Quickstart's call to <code>/accounts/get</code>, which retrieves basic information, such as name and balance, about the accounts associated with an Item. The call is fairly straightforward and uses the access_token as a single argument to the Plaid client object.

```
/accounts/get Ruby 

1  # Retrieve an Item's accounts
2  get '/accounts' do
3  begin
4  product_response = client.accounts.get(access_token)
5  pretty_print_response(product_response)
6  content_type : json
7  { accounts: product_response } . to_json
8  rescue Plaid::PlaidAPIError => e
9  error_response = format_error(e)
10  pretty_print_response(error_response)
11  content_type : json
12  error_response.to_json
13  end
14  end
```

How It Works

Claim Feature

servicing a request by the portal, after authenticating the portal using portal authentication data, by providing, to the portal, data of the user at the institution, wherein the user-institution authentication data and the portal authentication data are not the same data.

Evidence from Charles Schwab

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```
Example response data:
  /accounts/get response
        "accounts": [
            "account_id": "A3wenK5EQRfKlnxlBbVXtPw9gyazDWu1EdaZD",
            "balances": {
              "available": 100
              "current": 110,
              "iso_currency_code": "USD",
              "limit": null,
              "unofficial_currency_code": null
             "mask": "0000",
            "name": "Plaid Checking",
            "official_name": "Plaid Gold Standard 0% Interest Checking",
            "subtype": "checking"
            "type": "depository"
```

How It Works

